

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



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MEETING OF THE

PLANS & PROGRAMS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Monday, January 31, 2005

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

SCAG Offices

**818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
San Bernardino Conference Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 236-1800**

Video Conference Location

SCAG Inland Empire Office
3600 Lime Street, Suite 216
Riverside, CA 92501
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If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Philip Law at (213) 236-1841 or law@scag.ca.gov.

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. If you require such assistance, please contact SCAG at (213) 236-1868 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to enable SCAG to make reasonable arrangements. To request documents related to this document in an alternative format, please contact (213) 236-1868.



PLANS & PROGRAMS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

ITEM		PAGE #
1.0	<u>Call to Order and Selection of Officers</u>	SCAG staff
2.0	<u>Public Comment Period</u> Members of the public desiring to speak on an agenda item or items not on the agenda, but within the purview of this committee, must fill out a speaker's card prior to speaking and submit it to staff before the meeting is called to order. Comments will be limited to three minutes. The Chair may limit the total time for comments to twenty (20) minutes.	
3.0	<u>Information Items</u>	
3.1	<u>Issues Regarding the Next RTP Update Attachment</u>	Naresh Amatya, SCAG 1
3.2	<u>RTP Growth Forecast Update Process</u>	Frank Wen, SCAG
3.3	<u>TAC Work Program Attachment</u>	Sina Zarifi, SCAG 3
4.0	<u>Staff Report</u>	
5.0	<u>Comment Period</u> Any Committee member, member of the public, or staff desiring to comment on items not covered on the agenda may do so at this time. Comments should be limited to three minutes.	
6.0	<u>Next Meeting Date & Adjournment</u> The next meeting date is to be determined by the TAC.	

MEMO

DATE: January 31, 2005

TO: PLANS & PROGRAMS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: Naresh Amatya, Lead Senior Regional Planner, 213-236-1885,
amatya@scag.ca.gov

RE: Issues Regarding the Next RTP Update

The Regional Council adopted the 2004 RTP on April 1, 2004. Transportation conformity on the 2004 RTP was approved by the federal agencies on June 7, 2004 for the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), the Imperial County and Coachella Valley portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB), and the San Bernardino portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB). Conformity for the Ventura County portion of the South Central Coast Air Basin and the South Desert Modified 1-Hour Ozone Area was approved on June 16, 2004. Both federal (Title 23, CFR Sec.450.322) and state (Government Code 65080(c)) law requires that the RTP be update at least once every three years in federally designated non-attainment and maintenance areas for air quality, such as our region. This would require the current RTP to be updated and adopted by the Regional Council by no later than April 2007.

Since the adoption of the 2004 RTP in April 2004, a number of events that may influence the next plan update have occurred and some are unfolding as this memo is being prepared. First, on the positive side, voters of San Bernardino County overwhelmingly approved Measure I in San Bernardino County, which extends the half cent sales tax. This was included in the 2004 RTP as an initiative for additional funding. On the other hand, Los Angeles County initiative to add another half cent sales tax in LA County, which was also included in the 2004 RTP, was not moved forward.

At the state level, recently unveiled budget proposal by the governor spells disaster for the near term transportation improvements. The proposed budget would specifically divert the Prop. 42 revenue again in the next fiscal year. Revenue from the Indian Gaming initiative has not materialized in the current fiscal year as anticipated and the revenue outlook for next fiscal year has been scaled back drastically. The full impact of these cuts to our transportation plans and programs may not be known until state releases their fund estimates for the next STIP funding round this spring.

Yet another event that may warrant re-visiting 2004 RTP sooner is the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) board action on the Center Line project. The 2004 RTP allocates over \$1 billion to ensure the project is operational by 2010, and includes a proposed northerly extension by 2030. Should the OCTA board action result in elimination or substantial change to this project, a comparable substitution would be required which

could also lead potentially to an earlier amendment of the 2004 RTP. In addition, OCTA is considering taking a ballot initiative to the voters in November of 2006 to extend Measure M, which is a sales tax measure in Orange County. Measure M extension is not reflected in the 2004 RTP.

Given all of these issues, staff is proposing an accelerated RTP update process in order to ensure maintaining the integrity of the current RTP and the associated transportation conformity. The following is a highlight of key milestones of the proposed accelerated RTP Update Schedule.

- June 2005 – Review and update overall goals, objectives, policies, planning assumptions, performance measures etc. Establish Base-Year performance condition and baseline revenue forecast as well as No-project growth forecast.
- December 2005- Establish Baseline performance condition and complete needs assessment, including identification of system deficiencies, bottlenecks etc.
- February 2006 – Complete sensitivity testing, scenario development/planning, including growth, capital improvement and environmental scenarios. Also, complete development of funding scenarios and analysis of range of costs associated with each alternative
- June 2006 – Release the Draft RTP for public review and comments
- July 2006 – Release Draft PEIR for public review and comments
- July 2006 – Complete Interagency coordination/consultation. Also complete response to comments and necessary adjustments to the Draft RTP per comments and input received.
- August 2006 – RC adopt RTP and approve the PEIR
- October 2006 – Conformity approval on the RTP

Public outreach would occur throughout the process on a continuous and on-going basis. The recommendation at this point is to move forward with the accelerated RTP Update process based on the general timeline identified above.

MEMO

DATE: January 31, 2005

TO: PLANS & PROGRAMS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: Sina Zarifi, Senior Regional Transportation Planner (213) 236-1853,
zarifi@scag.ca.gov

RE: TAC Work Program

The 2004 RTP was adopted by the Regional Council on April 1, 2004. Based on the state and federal regulatory mandates, the RTP must be updated every three years in a non-attainment or maintenance region, such as the SCAG region. That is, the 2004 RTP must be updated by April 2007.

A central purpose of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is to provide a long-term vision for transportation investment in the region. Clearly, realization of such a vision is complex and involves numerous public agencies and entities. To ensure support and consensus, full coordination and consultation among the region's stakeholders will be sought.

SCAG's 2004 RTP relied primarily on the RTP task force structure, RTP outreach process and the Comment and Response to Draft RTP in order to develop the needed consensus and comply with the regulatory requirements concerning consultation and coordination process. For the most part, this process has worked well.

RTP Update Process

The RTP update process begins with a comprehensive review of the existing Plan. This process would involve assessing not only underlying assumptions used in the RTP, such as the growth forecast, but also, goals objectives, policies, revenue forecast etc. as well as transportation projects and programs identified in the plan.

Most of the task forces that were involved in the 2004 RTP update will continue to provide the guidance for the next RTP update as well. The task forces that are continuing from the last update include Long Range Finance Task Force, Goods Movement Task Force, Regional Transit Advisory Committee, Aviation Task Force, Regional Transportation Demand Management Task Force, Plans and Programs Technical Advisory Committee, Maglev Task Force and Transportation Conformity Working Group.

TAC Work Program for the RTP Update

MEMO

The following identifies the various work elements that the TAC will be asked to review and provide input to the staff as part of the Plan update process. This is not an exhaustive list, rather it is intended to provide a general sense of the extent of work that must be accomplished. These activities will be updated on a regular basis to reflect the latest information available.

1. Review and update goals, objectives, etc. for the plan as well as all its components. Review and update key assumptions used in the planning process. – February - March 2005
2. Review the process for regional and county-level baseline growth forecast; planning assumptions and base-year definition; establishment of the base year, plan horizon and baseline or no-project scenario – April - May 2005
3. Transportation System Operation and Management (O & M); May 2005
4. Review growth and revenue forecast, and projects inventory. June 2005
5. Needs assessment analysis and identification of system deficiencies. Review the results of deficiency analysis. Discuss alternative scenarios based on deficiency analysis and updated inventory of capital projects. The alternatives should consider alternative growth scenarios based on the growth visioning process. July - August 2005
6. Development and refinement of alternatives – Sept - Oct 2005
7. System performance measures, criteria, methodology – Nov - Dec 2005
8. Model Validation and new model improvements – Jan – Feb 2005
9. Sensitivity analysis and review of various scenarios – March – April 2005
10. Review and discuss the range of costs for the various alternatives. – May - June 2006
11. Review Final Plan – August 2006